Ring, Bells Ring!

Chime, bells chime,
Ring out your carols like a lark,
Full of the joy of living,
Peal forth your notes oh bells supreme,
Full of the joy of giving!

Ring and sing, and sing and ring,
Make Christmas tuneful, starry,
Call the people in to prayer,
Lest merry people tarry.

There's music in the gong of bell,
Its clapper and its jacket,
There's happiness in gift to friend,
In large and tiny packet.

Ring, bells ring!
My heart is beating wildly,
Feeling the rhythm of your song
Deep-toned, and stern, yet kindly.

If I were where no Christmas came,
No New Year turned to greet me,
'Twould be as if I was not born,
And Nothing came to meet me.

Chime, bells chime!
I know what you are telling,
Laughter and joy was made for man,
And Christmas joy-compelling.

Ding-dong, Sing-song,
God made your notes so merry,
You have been true to form He Drew,
But man has grown contrary.

So bring him in with lure of bell,
Its mystic tie of spirit,
Ensnare his ear with rhymes of chimes,
Enthrall him so he'll hear it!

Ring, bells ring!
A Merry Christmas, sing it,
Reach for the sky, the dome of bell,
Your hand the gong to ring it!

—Ray Lewis

OUT OF THE THUNDERING CAVALCADE OF HISTORY COMES THE SCREEN'S MASTERPICTURE!

Towering head and shoulders above the screen giants of the past... Climaxing Warner Bros.' greatest production year..."SILVER DOLLAR"! Roaring, brawling record of America's most amazing empire builder, who lived to *beg* in the cities he had *built.* Men sang his glories... Women whispered of his sins ...America will *shout* its praise of this stupendous drama of his life and times!

Already 4-starred by Liberty Magazine. "A picture you must show," says *Hollywood Reporter.* "A honey"—*Variety Bulletin.* "Marvelous picture —it has everything!"—*Hollywood Herald.*

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ALINE MacMAHON

Directed by Alfred E. Green

A First National Picture

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RAY LEWIS
Editor and Managing Director

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WHY NOT A MERRY CHRISTMAS?

A REPORT comes to us that in North Monaghan and in Peterborough, Ontario, families receiving relief are attending shows regularly.

It is further alleged that A. G. Wetheral, City Relief Officer, and Relief Officer Killingwick in the township, have checked up, whereupon an edict has been pronounced, "If you go to the shows, then no more relief". This ruling to prevail in city and township. Why such an edict at Christmas time, why not a Merry Christmas?

It is a hard ruling at any time, and is adding "salt to the Wounds of Poverty". If those who are dependent upon Relief were among that classification, namely, "The poor ye have always with you," there might be a grain of justice, as large as a mustard seed, to justify the attitude of the Relief Department in sternly commanding, "If you go to shows then no more relief", but when we find that there are citizens today on Relief, who have always maintained their Economic Independence, and have been ready to share a portion of their earthly goods with the "under-privileged", this rule of "If you go to shows then no more relief", recalls to mind the inspiration which provoked, "At the Mercy of Tiberius".

Relief Officer Killingwick of North Monaghan is reported to have asked J. L. Malcolm, Government Relief Inspector, "Can I tell people who are on relief that they must stop going to shows?"

"Most certainly," is alleged to have been the reply of Mr. Malcolm.

The officer in question informed the Relief Inspector that he advised citizens to that effect, and they told him it was none of his business.

"It is your business, and you have full right to take steps to stop them from going to shows, euchres and other entertainments," Relief Inspector Malcolm is alleged to have said.

It was explained that citizens so admonished, replied that a sister or brother gave them the money, or ticket for the show.

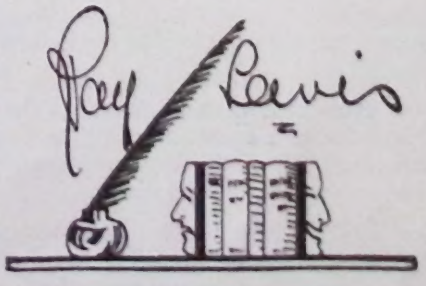
"In that case let the brother or sister of these families on relief, assist them by giving them loaves of bread, or vegetables and not by sending them off to the show," is alleged to have been the reply of the Relief Inspector.

To cite that the city and township collect an amusement tax which helps to provide for Relief; and that the sisters and brothers of citizens receiving Relief, pay their income, business, property and other taxes which helps to provide the funds for Relief, are perhaps factors which Relief Inspectors overlook.

Why should citizens on Relief be restrained from attending shows? Perhaps Relief Officers might hand out "Sackcloth and Ashes" for citizens on Relief, since there is no employment, no amusement, merely the barest necessities of life left for these unfortunates.

Give the people work and they will not require Relief. Give them work by legislating equitable laws which govern production and distribution; and which makes Labour and its products the gold standard of measuring the Nation's assets, in place of bullions of gold which are said to be securely lying in the Treasuries of nations.

It is a wise Government which would encourage Showmen to co-operate in presenting Entertainment for a harassed world which must have some safety-valve as a relief for its pent-up feelings; and it is much better that the safety-valve be Shows in place of Bombs! Wherefor Christmas, if it cannot be a Merry Christmas?



RAY PRESENTS

RAY LEWIS

THE Hamilton Review has editorially been inspired to express its admiration of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's production of "Smilin' Through". The editor evidently feels just as I feel about Norma Shearer in this picture, never has she looked lovelier, nor has any woman ever looked more beautiful than Norma Shearer in some of the scenes of "Smilin' Through".

I am reminded of Norma Talmadge in the silent version of "Smilin' Through". Norma who made this picture one of the most successful of her career — Norma, who was beautiful to look at; and who caught the spirit of "Smilin' Through" to such an extent that long runs were the usual indication of this picture's great success.

But not even Norma Talmadge can challenge the supremacy of Norma Shearer in this production; and the appeal, the romantic glamour of the silent version is but as an unfinished painting in comparison with a masterpiece in the production which Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has presented with Norma Shearer in the Talking Picture.

> *"Smilin' Through" is timely, for all the world is in need of a message to keep "Smilin' through". All the world is in need of faith, a faith in the beauty of life, a faith in Love, a faith in the Soul of their Immortality. That is why we have "The Oxford Group", that is why we have "The Commonwealth Group", one religious and the other atempting to find the Religion of Politics!*
>
> *These movements are securing disciples, because the world is anxious to keep "Smilin' Through". It is a Judgment Day which is upon us, but instead of "wailing and gnashing of teeth", we are endeavouring, we, meaning The Government and The People, to keep "Smilin' Through".*

THIS production is also in attune with the time, since there appears to be a World Impulse to return to that era which stood for Tradition, for Honour, for Romance, for Sentiment, for Religion, the Victorian Empire, under which regime an Empire was cemented; and a woman ruled as Queen of this Empire. Not because Destiny had crowned this woman for the Power of the Sceptre, but that she was a woman, who in all the vicissitudes of her office, its dignity and obligations, expressed herself as a wife and a mother, as well as a Queen!

There is every reason to be proud of the Victorian Era; and we who have passed through the Orgies which came as an aftermath of the War, see history repeating itself in the swing back to Victorianism.

Charles I, of England, lost his head, when Cromwell introduced the rule of the Roundheads with their Puritanism! We have drank deeply from the Cup of Life, even unto its dregs, we have tested the worth, the stability of a world where Gold became the Golden Calf of Worship, with rituals just as complete in their abandonment as was the worship of the Golden Calf of the Mosaic Mount Sinai epoch.

Now we return to "Smilin' Through", to the simple life. Our women are endeavouring to fit their personalities into the gowns of the Victorian era, and with these gowns the customs and usages of that period.

We are ready for "Smilin' Through", for the sentimental films extolled in the Hamilton Review, which expresses its viewpoint as follows:

> *"Our allegiance to movie actresses have been devoted almost solely to Greta Garbo and Norma Shearer; but after having seen the latter in 'Smilin' Through', we're dreadfully afraid there will be only a few crumbs of admiration left for Greta. However, we are not a bit sure about that.*
>
> *But we do feel certain that nothing quite so glamorous and beautiful has come out of Hollywood as 'Smilin' Through' with Norma Shearer playing the lead. Scores who saw it pronounced it the loveliest film they had ever seen, and we agree with them. It was most capably directed and acted and touchingly sentimental without being maudlin. Those who sniff with a superior air at Hollywood and admit with half an apology that they 'go to an occasional movie', should have seen this fine offering, and we venture they would revise their prejudiced opinions of American films.*
>
> *Norma Shearer as the Victorian miss whom tragedy robbed of happiness in this world was hauntingly beautiful—the most beautiful person we think we ever saw, on the screen, in real life, or in the mists of fancy. The transmission scenes also were beautifully done—a dimension to which only the moving picture camera can do full justice. We saw the stage production of 'Smilin' Through', and we had felt it would be hard to improve upon it. But the film was much superior to the play, in fact, there was no comparison, we thought."*

This is only part of the editorial in which the reviewer extolls "Smilin' Through".

Observations

By The Editor

LAST week I enumerated and briefly commented on several pictures of superlative quality which Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer had presented during the past season. In the group I mentioned "Smilin' Through", "Grand Hotel", "Mata Hari", "Washington Masquerade", "The Champ", "The Guardsman". I could, however, continue, as my memory pleasantly recalls Joan Crawford in "Letty Lynton", in which Joan does the best screen work of her career!

There was "Emma" with Marie Dressler, a real Dressler story which followed "Min and Bill", for which "Min" characterization Marie Dressler received the Academy's yearly award for the best performance.

There was "Private Lives", with Norma Shearer and Clark Gable, a most excellent picture and "Polly of the Circus" with Marion Davies, in which Marion has a kid-glove fitting part.

There was "Tarzan the Ape Man", a nature story which combined the impossible with the possible; and made elephants, tigers, lions do their bit toward Weismuller's virile characterization of "Tarzan".

There was "Arsene Lupin", with John and Lionel Barrymore. "When a Feller Needs a Friend", with Jackie Cooper and "Chic" Sale, is another Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture, most pleasantly remembered.

* * * *

UNITED ARTISTS gave us "Arrowsmith", with Ronald Colman and Helen Hayes; "Around the World in 80 Minutes", one of those fast-moving magical presentations which Douglas Fairbanks knows how to do so well. "The Greeks Had a Word For Them", with Ina Claire, Madge Evans and Joan Blondell, a sparkling comedy; Gloria Swanson in "Tonight or Never", which provoked you to reply "Let it be tonight".

"Sky Devils" was a thriller with Ann Dvorak. "Congress Dances" was a European success, released by United Artists. "Mr. Robinson Crusoe", with Douglas Fairbanks, was another U. A. good one.

* * * *

RKO have had a formidable array of winners, "States Attorney", with John Barrymore; "The Bird of Paradise", with Dolores Del Rio, a magnificent presentation and interpretation of this much played drama; "Bring 'Em Back Alive", the box-office wizard, in which Frank Buck demonstrated the reason for "Believe it or not"; Constance Bennett in "Two Against the World".

Ann Harding in "Prestige" also merits acclaim, while "The Symphony of Six Million", with Irene Dunn and Ricardo Cortez, made quite a hit on its own.

"The Lost Squadron", with Richard Dix, was also an RKO which was worth-while.

* * * *

WARNER BROS.-First National, "The Crowd Roars", with Joan Blondell and James Cagney, is worthy of mention, while in "The Mouthpiece", Warren Williams registered for all time upon the screen.

Kay Francis in "The Street of Women", a fascinating story with a fascinating star. "The Jewel Robbery", with Kay Francis and William K. Powell.

* * * *

UNIVERSAL presented Fanny Hurst's "Back Street", with Irene Dunne and John Boles, a story that created a most favorable public, as well as box-office impression.

"The Doomed Battalion", a most unusual picture depicting War in the Alps and revealing scenes of photographic beauty seldom surpassed or equalled. Especially is this true of the skiing scenes in the Alps.

"Once in a Lifetime", one of the finest comedies of the screen. "Frankenstein", great for box-office and forerunner of a siege of "curdlers"; and "Igloo", a story dealing with Alaska and the Eskimos.

* * * *

FOX had "Congorilla" with Mr. and Mrs. Martin Johnston; the Will Rogers pictures, "Down to Earth", "Too Busy to Work", always favorites. "The Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell, "Tess of the Storm Country" and "First Year"; "Bachelor Affairs", with Joan Marsh and Adolph Menjou.

Paramount is conspicuous for "Broken Lullaby", with Lionel Barrymore, a D. W. Griffith production; "Shanghai Express", with Marlene Dietrich, and "Blonde Venus" with Dietrich, excellent acting, weak story, wonderful direction by Joseph Von Sternberg; Maurice Chevalier in "One Hour With You". "The World and the Flesh", with George Bancroft; "Horse Feathers", with the Marx Brothers; and another Chevalier, "Love Me Tonight"; Harold Lloyd in "Movie Crazy". Not forgetting "Sooky" successor to "Skippy".

* * * *

WORLD WIDE presented "The Crooked Circle", with Zasu Pitts, and "The Sign of the Four", a Sherlock Holmes story.

There were a number of English pictures from Gainsborough-Gaumont-British, such as "Sunshine Susie", a simple story produced most happily and with such excellent joyful effect that it proved to be one of the most popular releases in Canada. "Jack's The Boy" is another British Gainsborough success.

"Zwei Herzen und Ein Schlag", artistic sufficiently to have enjoyed a Broadway run and to have invoked a substantial following in the "Spots" in Canada, where it was released.

"Maedchen in Uniform", all in German with some English titles is a picture which has to be seen to be appreciated. It has an all-women cast. Its story, direction, atmosphere, its players are of a superlative degree and quite in a class by themselves. That it has created a phenomenal success in New York City where it is enjoying a run, does not indicate it would enjoy a run where there is not a sufficiently intellectualized public to appreciate the Art of a picture regardless of the language of its presentation. It is, however, most worthy of a place in the Sun of Motion Pictures including our spotlight, also!

* * * *

THERE were many other worthy pictures presented during the past season, "Good Night Vienna", and "Thark", English pictures, released through United Artists, must not be overlooked for words of praise, nor must we omit to mention "Bill of Divorcement", an RKO feature, with John Barrymore and Katharine Hepburn, also Billie Burke.

"The Cohens and Kellys in Hollywood", Universal; "Cry of the World", a Fox message for peace! "The

(Continued on page 12)

A scene from the United Artist release "Magic Night".

Hon. T. D. Bouchard Sponsors Children's Legislation

THE Hon. T. D. Bouchard, member of Parliament for St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, is sponsor for a bill to be presented to the House, when the session opens, covering the attendance of children, to motion picture theatres in the Province of Quebec.

Interviewed, Speaker Bouchard explained, "It is not our intention in this bill to provide that children shall be permitted to attend the theatres at each and every performance, as is suggested by the Opposition, it is rather our intention to have regulations provided whereby, at special matinees, say two or three times each week, special performances will be put on suitable for the children. They would comprise educational films, comedies and selected dramas which have either an educational or historical value.

"I undrestand that this is permitted in the neighboring province, where on stated occasions, thousands of children attend the shows without guardians, and with a fireman and policeman on duty, while the theatres supply special officers and one or two matrons.

"I cannot see where there can be objections to this plan, and I do know, and so do the Provincial and Fire Prevention authorities, that the motion picture theatres in the Province now are well protected against fire. I cannot see the difference between such pictures as I have outlined being permitted to be shown in Church Halls and other places, or the theatres."

It is reported that Speaker Bouchard will have the strong co-operation of citizens from all over the Province of Quebec to add the force of their voice in support of this bill.

Robert G. Dean Convicted

(Special to Digest from Winnipeg)

Robert G. Dean, convicted in the Winnipeg Assize Court of breaking into the Lyceum Theatre, Winnipeg, and stealing $1,000, was sentenced by Mr. Justice Donovan to serve five years in Stony Mountain Penitentiary at hard labor. He was arrested in Vancouver, B.C.

Observations

(Continued from Page 11)

Dark Horse", with Warren Williams, Warner-First National. "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde", a Paramount feature with Frederic March, the latter who won the Academy's yearly award for the best male performance. "Final Edition", a Columbia picture, and "Freaks", another unusual picture produced by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

"The Sins of Madelon Claudet", with Helen Hayes, who secured the Academy's award for year's best work. "Prosperity", another winner for M-G-M with Marie Dressler and Polly Moran.

* * * *

"LADIES OF THE JURY", an RKO with Edna May Oliver, a comedy hit supreme. "Madame Racketeer" a Paramount, with Alison Skipworth, whose excellent work adds distinction to any picture. "Michael and Mary" a British Gainsborough with Herbert Marshall and Edna Best, one of the best of the British, released in the U. S. by Universal, also in Canada, through Regal.

"Pack Up Your Troubles", with Laurel and Hardy, was made for laughs, and how we laughed that Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer had a sufficient sense of humour to produce it. In fact it demonstrated that one could laugh until their sides ached, and many a rib reached a point where self-control, or breaking a rib appeared in the alternative. Laurel and Hardy were never funnier than in "Pack Up Your Troubles".

"Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm", with Marion Nixon was a charming picture produced by Fox, and "The Red-Headed Woman", with Jean Harlow, a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, was also stimulating and merrily entertaining.

"The Viking", was J. D. Williams' picture, unusual and interesting. Space forbids me to present more pictures of quality which parade across my memory, but "The Wet Parade", another M-G-M outstanding feature clamours for remembrance.

"Marry Me"

RENATE MULLER, the winning girl you admired in "Sunshine Susie" is back as the adorable star of "Marry Me" and what a welcome the original "happiness girl" is receiving from Canadian audiences! In addition to the happy feminine star who won all Canadian hearts, Miss Muller's new picture "Marry Me" contains a wealth of good things to cheer hearts and lighten the cares of the day.

Renate Muller is of course, outstanding in the picture, but the cheerful singing, dancing and smiling star of "Marry Me" is helped by George Robey, the famous English music-hall comedian. He's a hilarious success in his first screen role. In addition, the superb laugh-creating ability of Harry Green, the popular dialect star of "The Kibitzer" and other roaring comedies, is added for generous good measure. But even that's not all!

"Marry Me" introduces two musical numbers that are already widely popular on the radio and are being hummed and whistled generally. The theme song is "Marry Me" and the other "Sunshine Song" reminiful of "Today I Feel So Happy" the number which Miss Muller introduced in her "Sunshine Susie" role.

"Marry Me" is a Gainsborough British-Gaumont, released in Canada through Regal Films Ltd.

Christian Science Monitor Observes British Films

The Christian Science Monitor in its observation of British Films, editorially states, "After a period of depression, the British Film Industry is showing all the marks of confidence and success. Two or three new talkies are being completed each week by one or other of the movie companies now operating in Britain; and with the increase in output goes a corresponding improvement in quality. Nevertheless, there is one complaint about British films which is made so constantly from so many different quarters that the industry might be well advised to give it attention. It is that British films reveal little or nothing of the national temperament, ambitious, and outlook."

Cole's Theatre Blairmore Has Unique Equipment

Coles Theatre, Blairmore, Alta, has a special device which will appeal to all who are troubled with poor sight and difficulties by way of hearing.

The new sound screen is covered with glass beads which give a uniform light and a clearness of definition pleasantly retroactive upon the most delicate eye. The device is also arranged for a clearness of tone values.

E. B. Dewees Arranges To Open Province Theatre

E. B. Dewees has arranged to open the Province Theatre as an entirely local organization of Revelstoke, B.C. The presentations will include the best pictures shown in first run Vancouver theatres. Mr. Dewees announces he will continue to give away "Ladies Dinnerware" as an added attraction.

Delhi, Ont. Theatre

Construction for a modern picture theatre for Delhi, Ontario, has been ratified, the lowest bid for such construction coming through the N. R. Ibbetson Company of Delhi. This town has been without a theatre for three years.

Loew's London Theatre Declare $10.00 Dividend

The Directors of Loew's London Theatres have declared a dividend for nine months on the $10.00 preferred stock.

This 82½ cents as declared covers the preferred arrears up to the end of 1931.

Tivoli, Toronto, "Uncle Moses"

The Tivoli, Toronto, presented an all-Yiddish film called "Uncle Moses".

Loew's Theatres Pay Back Dividends

The directors of Marcus Loew's Theatres, Limited, Toronto, recently declared a dividend of $5.25 on the 7% preferred stock of the company, being a ¾ year dividend, which was payable December 1st. This brings back dividends up to the end of 1931 as fully paid, and with every indication that there will be a renewal of regular payment of dividends at an early date.

"Bitter Sweet" for B. & D.

British & Dominions which have distribution all over the world, through United Artists, has secured the production rights to that most famous of stage plays, "Bitter Sweet".

Herbert Wilcox, director of productions, made the announcement following negotiations with C. B. Cochrane and Noel Coward. Ann Neagle will play the lead.

Australia's First Talkie

Universal gave a trade show in London, at the Cambridge Theatre, of Australia's first talking picture entitled, "Down on the Farm". Bert Bailey and other well-known Australian players are in the cast.

Rossland, Cranbrook Closed

The Rossland Theatre, at Cranbrook, B.C., was closed by Famous Players Canadian Corporation. The theatre is said to be a most attractive one, having been opened not more than two years ago.

Madison, Toronto Presents French Films Successfully

The Madison Theatre, Toronto, is successfully presenting some French films and getting an added patronage to the usual bumper houses this Independent theatre attracts.

The Post Office Dept. Makes Fine Picture

"Why Grandma's Parcel was Late" was a film made to help Christmas Post Office Delivery. It was produced in Montreal, and is an excellent little film.

Gaiety, Fairville Celebrates

The Gaiety, Fairville, N.S., recently celebrated its 16th birthday and in the observance of this celebration this good news becomes important and predominant. Fairville is re-opening its pulp mill which is the hub wheel of this community's prosperity.

Theatre Promotion and Sales Department

WE have a theatre in a good sized town in Quebec, seating capacity 560. This theatre operates seven nights a week, with matinees Saturday, Sunday and holidays. The price of building is $20,000, cash $10,000, balance easy terms. Average yearly receipts $20,000, operating expenses approximately $14,000.

Good theatre proposition for a real live showman.

APPLY BOX 15—DIGEST

WE have a theatre for sale close to Toronto. Seating capacity approximtaely 500. Northern Electric sound system. First class equipment. Low overhead — excellent location — a bargain!

APPLY BOX 19—DIGEST

HAVE theatre with a seating capacity of 300, equipped with Simplex Projectors and De Forest Sound Equipment in first class condition, in a town of 2,200, no opposition, excellent location on account of various factories.

Theatre has 20 x 20 ft. stage and dressing rooms for vaudeville. Can be purchased at a sacrifice, $5,300 for theatre and equipment. $2,000 cash and balance easy terms. Will also give a lease on the building at $60.00 per month for a term of years with an option to purchase. This must be purchased quick as owner is leaving city.

APPLY BOX 21—DIGEST

WE have for sale moving picture theatre in town in Ontario approximately 600 seats, large stage, billiard room and bowling alley in basement, hardwood floors, a barber shop, all in building which occupies important site in town. Will lease or sell.

APPLY BOX 23—DIGEST

HAVE a theatre and community hall in real live town in Ontario, equipped with Sunbeam soundtrack equipment, which is reported to be giving excellent results. No opposition within 300 miles, running four nights per week, 2 changes. Theatre has 200 seats with floor space for an additional 300 seats. Attractive box-office and lobby for advertising. Stage 13 x 26 ft. There is a community hall, 28 x 70 ft. including clubrooms on the ground floor of theatre. Yearly revenue from clubhouse, various organizations, $800, in addition to theatre revenue. Owner has secured position in Toronto which takes him out of town. Easy proposition to handle.

APPLY BOX 25—DIGEST

Toronto Telegram Editorially Has View on National Anthem

The Toronto Telegram editorially sounds a great deal of common sense in its views regarding the ruling in Section 18, of the Theatres and Cinematographs Act which makes it necessary to play the National Anthem at the finish of all performances.

The playing of the National Anthem is always an indication that the event, whatever it is, has finished; and that the audience is dismissed.

In a continuous show, the National Anthem, would have to be played at the close of each performance; and would indicate to the patrons that the performance was over, whereas the performance would really not be terminated since the Show never stops, but is a continuous one.

The recent ruling that makes it obvious that the National Anthem shall be played at the closing of each performance, is in need of further reconsideration.

Patrons in a continuous show come into a theatre during the show, generally waiting for the show to begin all over again, that they may see a complete show before they leave the theatre. The playing of the National Anthem would mean to these patrons that it was not necessarily the finish of the show; and if these patrons remained, they would likely hear the National Anthem played through twice in a period of two hours.

There is such a thing as "too much of a good thing" even by way of patriotic fervour; and for Britishers to become impatient of this "too much" defeats the very object for which the National Anthem is played.

To have ushers inform the patrons that the show is not over, or to flash this announcement on the screen, is neither good for the theatre nor for the National Anthem, which becomes an object necessary of explanation.

We suggest that the National Anthem should open the first show and close the last one.

The Telegram's viewpoint is interesting and is as follows:

"The Telegram has always stood, in both senses of the word, for the playing of 'God Save the King'. But we must confess that the proposal of the Queen's Park officials to rigidly enforce the playing of the National Anthem at the close of each performance in every theatre in the province elicits in us no patriotic response.

After all, a theatrical performance is an entirely commercial business. Even the payment of the provincial amusement tax fails to endow it with the nature of a state ceremony or national occasion. It would be difficult to explain why it is any more appropriate to tag the National Anthem to the tail end of an evening of comic opera or gloomy tragedy than it would be for the corner grocer to wrap up his butter and bacon in the words and music of the same. If when the conductor has led his orchestra to the end of a concert it is incumbent for him to lead off in the sacred song, why should not the conductor whose street car has come to the end of the line give the signal for the passengers to rise and assert their patriotism?

Section 18 of the Theatres and Cinemtaographs Act, which the Queen's Park officials propose to enforce, has certain inherent difficulties. It is applicable to moving picture shows as well as to the home of legitimate drama. Some of the picture theatres open at 11 a.m. and run continuously till midnight or thereabouts, giving several performances in the course of a day. Is the National Anthem to be sandwiched in at intervals, or just what is the law in that case made and provided?

The singing or playing of the National Anthem should be reserved for those occasions when it has a solemn and patriotic significance. It has no place either at beginning or end of a purely commercial transaction. It is as out of place in the theatres as is the Union Jack outside an auction room."

Ray Lewis Arranges Free Show Christmas Tree for 1,000 Children

Ray Lewis (Mrs. Joshua Smith) as President of Ward 2 Women's Liberal Conservative Association, in conjunction with the officers of her Ward Association, Mrs. Norman Johnston, Financial Secretary; Mrs. Jane Curran, Secretary; Mrs. M. Warner, 1st Vice-President; Mrs. Sidney Robinson, Treasurer; Mrs. F. White and Mrs. I. Dallor, Vice-Presidents, has arranged a free show at the Carlton Theatre, Parliament St., where approximately 1,000 children's hearts will be made glad through the courtesy of the Paramount Famous Lasky, who have loaned the talking picture "Sooky" for this Christmas treat for the children.

R. Freeman, manager of the Carlton Theatres Amusement Ltd., is contributing the theatre and operator for this occasion. A huge Christmas tree covered with 1,000 stockings, containing toys, oranges, apples, nuts, candies, etc., will be distributed to these children, who are the children of the members of the Ward 2 Women's Liberal-Conservative Association, an organization of 750 women.

Mayor Stewart, Alderman Beamish, Alderman Winnett, Controller J. Simpson, Controller Sam McBride, and other candidates seeking re-election and election in the coming municipal election will be present, together with the members of Parliament for the Riding.

The Mavety Film Delivery Service is taking care of the film. Columbia Pictures is donating a "Disney" comedy.

In addition to the Christmas Free Show and stockings, 139 Christmas hampers will be delivered to needy families in Ward 2.

This organization is, in addition to its political work, a fraternal association. It recently passed a resolution asking for legislation which would prevent the removal of stoves, kitchen tables, chairs, pots, pans, dishes, beds and bedding from homes of the unemployed, because of an inability to meet installment payments. A moratorium is being requested for such families as are receiving Government Relief.

$80,000 Tax Decrease In Amusement Revenue

THE fiscal year ending October 31st, 1932, will show a decrease of approximately $80,000 over the previous year, as revenue obtained from the Amusement Tax.

This decrease occurs regardless of the increase of this taxation. The main cause of decrease in taxation revenue is due, it is reported, to decreased admission prices, although a decrease in attendance at theatres, race tracks and other Entertainments is an important factor.

Taxation of higher-priced seats did not secure the added revenue expected, since the public are buying cheaper seats mainly, and Amusements have been obliged to decrease admission prices to meet the public purse of today.

A comparison of figures is interesting covering what is termed the "palmy days" of 1929, when the government at Queen's Park, Toronto, collected $1,315,655.67 from Amusement Tax, as compared with $1,069,306.30 in 1931, as against the 1932 figures of $1,020,306, a drop of 24 percent below the high.